

## Message Text

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R 210108Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GEORGETOWN 0067 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
BRIDGETOWN KINGSTON PARAMARIBO PORT OF SPAIN 12 JAN 76.

QUOTE

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EWS11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EAID UNGA GY

SUBJ: UNGA VOTE SANCTIONS -- LOCAL REACTION

REF: GEORGETOWN 0063 (NODIS)(NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: GOG HAS BEGUN ANTI-U.S. PUBLICITY BARRAGE OVER  
ALLEGED U.S. PRESSURE ON ANGOLA AND ALLEGED THREAT OF AID CUTOFF.  
HOWEVER, THERE IS STILL NO DIRECT PUBLIC COMMENT BY GOG  
ON AID CUTOFF ALLEGATION OF NEW YORK TIMES AND WASHINGTON  
POST ARTICLES. END SUMMARY.

2. GOG-OWNED CHRONICLE MORNING JAN 12 UNDER SCREAMING  
RED FRONT PAGE HEADLINE OF QUOTE DIGNITY OR DEATH - PM  
UNQUOTE CARRIED TEXT GIVEN PARA 3 REGARDING USG PRESSURE  
ON CUBAN AIRLIFT TO ANGOLA. TEXT DEALT WITH PART OF  
RADIO INTERVIEW SATURDAY EVENING BY PM BURNHAM INTENDED  
TO SUBSTITUTE FOR TRADITIONAL NEW YEARS DAY  
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STATEMENT. INTERVIEW AS A WHOLE (BEING REPORTED

SEPTTEL) WAS MODERATE, BROAD RANGING, AND WAS SUBJECT OF FACTUAL AND BALANCED LEAD ARTICLE IN CHRONICLE JAN 11. HEADLINE OVER 30 HOURS LATER AND EXCLUSIVE FOCUS ON SMALL PORTION OF INTERVIEW DEALING WITH ALLEGED U.S. PRESSURE WAS OBVIOUSLY INSPIRED BY GOG AS PUBLIC REACTION TO NEW YORK TIMES STORY RE AID CUTOFF. IT FOLLOWED OFFICIAL THUS FAR UNPUBLICIZED QUERY (REFTEL) MADE TO AMBASSADOR BY FONMIN WILLS AND ECON DEVELOPMENT MINISTER HOYTE SUNDAY MORNING AT FONOFF.

3. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THOUGH REPORT OF NYT ARTICLE RE AID CUTOFF WAS CARRIED ON LOCAL RADIO EVENING JAN 10, THERE HAS BEEN NO STORY BASED ON THAT ARTICLE IN PRESS. HOWEVER, JAN 12 CHRONICLE CARRIED THREE COLUMN ARTICLE ON BACK PAGE CITING SATURDAY WASHINGTON POST STORY UNDER RED HEADLINE OF QUOTE U.S. PLANNING TO PUT PRESSURE ON GUYANA UNQUOTE AND QUOTING UNNAMED SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL (UNCLEAR WHETHER OFFICIAL WAS U.S. GOR GUYANESE) WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON WASHINGTON POST STORY AS SAYING QUOTE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES HAVE LONG BEEN ACCUSTOMED TO BIG STICK POLITICS UNQUOTE.

4. JAN 10 CHRONICLE CARRIED JAMAICAN DAILY NEWS JAN 2 ARTICLE CONDEMNING U.S. CONCERN RELAYED TO GUYANA OVER ANGOLA FLIGHTS UNDER CHRONICLE HEADLINE OF QUOTE JAMAICAN NEWSPAPER CHARGES U.S. ATTEMPTING TO MEDDLE IN GUYANA'S FOREIGN POLICY UNQUOTE.

5. TEXT OF FRONT PAGE ARTICLE ON BURNHAM INTERVIEW FOLLOWS:  
BEGIN QUOTE:

(PARA A) PRIME MINISTER FORBES BURNHAM HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE GUYANESE PEOPLE WOULD PREFER TO DIE WITH THEIR DIGNITY RATHER THAN BOW TO PRESSURE ON THE QUESTION OF GUYANA'S SOVEREIGNTY.

(PARA B) DISCUSSING THE ANGOLAN SITUATION AND THE "MESSAGE" FROM THE UNITED STATES OVER THE POSSIBLE USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF TIMEHRI AIRPORT BY CUBANS EN ROUTE TO ANGOLA, HE SAID "WE ARE POOR. ONE OF THE FEW THINGS WE HAVE IS HUMAN DIGNITY, AND WE PREFER TO DIE WITH IT."

(PARA C) ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANY TRUTH IN REPORTS CIRCULATING IN THE REST OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY THAT GUYANA HAD GIVEN PERMISSION TO THE CUBANS TO USE TIMETVU, HE REPLIED "WE HAVE RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL

REQUEST WHATSOEVER FROM THE CUBANS FOR SUCH USE OF  
TIMEHRI AIRPORT."

(PARA D) ASKED WHAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO IF  
SUCH A REQUEST WAS MADE, HE RESPONDED: "AS I  
TOLD A CERTAIN AMBASSADOR, WHO WAS DELIVERING A  
MESSAGE TO ME: THAT IS TO ANTICIPATE THE EXERCISE OF  
SOVEREIGNTY OF GUYANA."

(PARA E) COMRADE BURNHAM WAS ASKED TO GIVE HIS REACTION TO THE  
"CONCERN" WHICH THE UNITED STATES EXPRESSED TO THE GOVERNMENT  
OVER THE POSSIBLE USE OF TIMEHRI BY THE CUBANS.

(PARA F) HE SAID, "THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT CLAIMED TO HAVE  
KNOWLEDGE, OR DID HAVE KNOWLEDGE, THAT CUBAN PLANES HAVE BEEN  
USING BARBADOS SEAWELL AIRPORT FOR THIS PURPOSE AND WERE ABOUT  
TO USE PIARCO. I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF IT."

(PARA G) "THEY PERHAPS TOOK A LOOK AT THE GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION  
IN THE CARIBBEAN AND THOUGHT THAT GUYANA WOULD BE A PLACE THAT  
COULD BE USED IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES AND THEY ALSO THOUGHT TO DELIVER  
A MESSAGE."

(PARA H) "WE GOT A MESSAGE REQUESTING US NOT TO ALLOW IT TO BE  
USED, AND I GAVE THE ANSWER WHICH I AM GIVING YOU:

(PARA 8) "THERE IS NO OFFICIAL REQUEST AND ANY REQUEST THAT IS MADE  
WOULD BE CONSIDERED AND ACTED ON. FOR ME TO SAY WHAT I WOULD DO TO  
A REQUEST WOULD BE QUITE WRONGLY AND QUITE IMPROPERLY BE SEEKING TO  
ANTICIPATE THE EXERCISE OF SOVEREIGNTY BY AN INDEPENDENT  
COUNTRY, ALBEIT SMALL."

(PARA J): "BUT AS I SAID ON ANOTHER OCCASION, WHICH  
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I DON'T CARE TO IDENTIFY NOW, WE ARE POOR. ONE OF THE FEW  
THINGS WE HAVE IS HUMAN DIGNITY, AND WE PREFER TO DIE WITH IT."

(PARA K): COMRADE BURNHAM EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD  
DECIDED TO MAKE ITS POSITION CLEAR ON THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION  
OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA. (MPLA)  
GOVERNMENT AFTER THE MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN  
UNITY WHICH IS TAKING PLACE OVER THE WEEKEND.

(PARA L): HE CONFIRMED THAT GUYANA HAS SENT RICE AND SUGAR TO  
ANGOLA AS PART OF ITS COMMITMENT TO HELPING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS,  
ADDING: "WE FEEL OURSELVES COMPELLED TO SUPPORT THIS MOVEMENT WHICH  
IS WAGING OUR WAR AGAINST THE RACIST MINORITY REGIME IN SOUTH  
AFRICA, AND NOTHING, NO SOPHISTRY NOR ARM-TWISTING CAN HIDE THE  
FACT THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS AN AGGRESSOR IN ANGOLA".

(PARA M): "WHETHER OR NOT SOUTH AFRICA IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ANY  
DIFFERENCES THERE ARE BETWEEN THE GROUPS IS ANOTHER MATTER. BUT  
BY YOUR FRIENDS YOU ARE IDENTIFIED."

END QUOTE

MATTHEWS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VOTING, PRESS COMMENTS, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, SANCTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**To:** USUN NEW YORK  
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